

protecting a nation that treated them as second-class citizens at best. Military life offered no escape from the racism and segregation of civilian life, but Mr. Hodges didn't let that deter him. He served his country with distinction as a medical corpsman, ordnance technician and supplymaster. Mr. Hodges even became friends with General John "Black Jack" Pershing, commander of the U.S. Allied Expeditionary Force.

Following his service, he returned home to his mother and father's farm. He married Malinda, and despite the economic hard times, the two eventually saved enough money to buy their own land and build a home in Stonewall. He and Malinda had eight children. Sadly, after more than 50 years of marriage, Malinda died in 1997.

Time has not touched his incredible spirit. In fact, if you ask him to, he can still describe his feelings at the moment he heard an orderly shout to the front lines "The war is over!"

Several years ago, a reporter covering a Veteran's Day celebration in Stonewall asked Mr. Hodges why it was so important for him to tell his story. Mr. Hodges replied because "so many people . . . didn't get to come home."

Mr. Hodges' story is remarkable. He overcame discrimination and prejudice and served his country with honor. He raised a loving family and has become a pillar of his church and community. I am proud to help tell his story of service and patriotism today, and I'm certain it will serve as an inspiration to all of us.●

CONGRATULATIONS TO ULUS JOHNSON OF SYMSONIA, KENTUCKY

● Mr. BUNNING. Madam President, today I congratulate Ulus Johnson of Symsonia, KY on being named by the Benton Kiwanis Club this year's Grand Marshal of events for the annual Tater Day Parade.

Mr. Johnson, who was with the Navy Seabees during WWII and served 28 months in the South Pacific, is believed to be the first non-Marshall Countian ever to be named Grand Marshal in the Parade's 159 years of existence. Like Mr. Johnson, Tater Day has survived the various twists and turns of history. During the 1950s and 1960s, many believed the parade was on the brink of being canceled. But with the help of friends, Ulus Johnson was able to revive the tradition of Tater Day for future generations.

Tater Day has its origins on the first Monday in April because this day also happened to be County Court Day and a good time for farmers to gather from across Kentucky in Benton to stock up on supplies, including sweet potatoes, for the upcoming planting season. They could also visit with neighbors, swap horses, dogs, knives and more than a few quality stories and tales. Johnson vividly remembers pretending to be ill on this day as a young boy so that he

could miss school and attend the events of Tater Day. For many years, Johnson even drove his stagecoach to the parade for the sake of tradition, but now this item stands in a glassed-in enclosure at the rear of his home, where school children often come to learn about modes of transportation from the past. Ulus Johnson has been a vital figure for the Tater Day Parade almost his entire life and will certainly do a great job carrying on its tradition and legacy.

I once again congratulate Mr. Johnson for this honor and wish him and the rest of the participants a glorious Tater Day.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting a withdrawal and sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2001, the Secretary of the Senate, on March 5, 2002, during the recess of the Senate, received the following message from the President of the United States, together with the accompanying papers; which was referred as indicated:

PM-72. A message from the President of the United States, received during adjournment, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report to facilitate positive adjustment to competition from imports of certain steel products; to the Committee on Finance.

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with section 203(b) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (the "Act"), I hereby transmit documents to the Congress that describe the safeguard action that I have proclaimed on imports of certain steel products, pursuant to the authority vested in me by section 203(a)(1) of the Act and as President of the United States, and the reasons for taking that action.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, March 5, 2002.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:49 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3789. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located

at 2829 Commercial Way in Rock Springs, Wyoming, as the "Teno Roncalio Post Office Building."

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 338. Concurrent resolution authorizing the printing as a House document of a collection of memorial tributes made in honor of the late Gerald Solomon.

H. Con. Res. 305. Concurrent resolution permitting the use of the Rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony to present a gold medal on behalf of Congress to former President Ronald Reagan and his wife Nancy Reagan.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 2(a) of the National Cultural Center Act (20 U.S.C. 76h(a)), amended by Public Law 107-117, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts: Ms. PRYCE of Ohio and Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island.

At 10:55 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 622) to amend the Internal Revenue Code 1986 to expand the adoption credit, and for other purposes, with amendments to Senate amendments pursuant to House Resolution 347, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2001, the Secretary of the Senate, on today March 6, 2002, during the recess of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 1857. An act to encourage the negotiated settlement of tribal claims.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 6:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 1857. An act to encourage the negotiated settlement of tribal claims.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3789. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2829 Commercial Way in Rock Springs, Wyoming, as the "Teno Roncalio Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 338. Concurrent resolution authorizing the printing as a House document of a collection of memorial tributes made in honor of the late Gerald Solomon; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.